

In the Claims:

Kindly add new claims 31-53 as follows:

Sub B2 } 31. An article comprising a substrate having a mosaic image
thereupon, said mosaic image having an appearance that approximates
3 a target image through use of a plurality of source images, and
4 which mosaic image is generated by a process executed with a
5 computer comprising the steps of:
6 loading the target image into the computer;
7 dividing the target image into a plurality of tile regions,
8 each tile region representing a distinct locus of the target image,
9 and
10 for each tile region:
11 comparing source images to the tile region to produce a
12 measurement of visual similarity, said comparing step including
13 analyzing a plurality of individual portions of each source image;
14 selecting the source image with the highest measurement
15 of visual similarity to represent the tile region; and
16 positioning the selected source image in the mosaic image
17 at a locus corresponding to the locus of the tile region.

1 ~~32.~~ The article of claim 31 wherein the process includes the
2 further step of dividing the tile region into distinct sub-regions,
3 each sub-region corresponding to a specific portion of the source
4 image, and comparing each ^Brespective sub-region with each
5 respective source image portion to produce the measurement of
6 ~~visual similarity.~~

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1 } 33. The article of claim 32 wherein the process includes the
2 further step of employing source images having one pixel per
3 ~~respective sub-region.~~


1 31 ²⁹ 34. The article of claim 31 wherein the process includes the
2 further step of computing the average Root-Mean Square error of
3 Red, Green and Blue channels.

1 32 ²⁹ 35. The article of claim 31 wherein the process includes the
2 further step of removing source images selected in said selecting
3 step from consideration such that no one source image appears more
4 than once in the mosaic image.

1 33 ²⁹ 36. The article of claim 31 wherein the process includes the
2 further step of capturing source images, and storing the captured
3 source images in a database.

1 ~~34~~³³ 37. The article of claim ~~36~~³³ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of generating modified source images by cropping the
3 source images captured in said capturing step to square.

1 ~~35~~³⁴ 38. The article of claim ~~37~~³⁴ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of, in the case of a captured source image in
3 landscape format, cropping the captured image from center.

1 ~~36~~³⁵ 39. The article of claim ~~38~~³⁵ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of, in the case of a captured source image in portrait
3  format, cropping the captured image from above center.

1 ~~37~~³⁴ 40. The article of claim ~~37~~³⁴ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of categorizing the captured source images within the
3 database.

1 ~~38~~³⁴ 41. The article of claim ~~37~~³⁴ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of storing the captured source images at different
3 levels of resolution.

1 ~~39~~²⁹ 42. The article of claim ~~31~~²⁹ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of deselecting the source image with the highest
3 measurement of visual similarity if it is determined that the

4 source image has a higher measurement of visual similarity to
5 another tile region.

1 ⁴⁰~~43~~. The article of claim ²⁹~~31~~ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of specifying at least one source image for assured
3 inclusion in the mosaic image, the assured source image being
4 positioned in the mosaic image at a locus corresponding to the
5 locus of the tile region having the highest measure of visual
6 similarity therewith.

1 ⁴¹~~44~~. The article of claim ²⁹~~31~~ wherein the process includes the
2 further step of specifying a sub-category of source images for
3 exclusive matching with a predetermined portion of the target
4 image.

1 ⁴²~~45~~. The article of claim ²⁹~~31~~ wherein said article includes a
2 printout from a digital printer.

1 ⁴³~~46~~. The article of claim ²⁹~~31~~ wherein said article includes a
2 photograph.

1 ⁴⁴~~47~~. The article of claim ²⁹~~31~~ wherein said article includes
2 photographic paper.

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1 48. The article of claim 29 wherein said article includes
2 photographic film.

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3 49. A storage medium for use with a computer comprising a
4 substrate for storing at least one mosaic image having an
5 appearance that approximates a target image through use of a
6 plurality of source images, and which mosaic image is generated by
7 a process comprising the steps of:
8 loading the target image into the computer;
9 dividing the target image into a plurality of tile regions,
10 each tile region representing a distinct locus of the target image,
11 and
12 for each tile region:
13 comparing source images to the tile region to produce a
14 measurement of visual similarity, said comparing step including
15 analyzing a plurality of individual portions of each source image;
16 selecting the source image with the highest measurement
17 of visual similarity to represent the tile region; and
18 positioning the selected source image in the mosaic image
19 at a locus corresponding to the locus of the tile region.

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1 50. The storage medium of claim 46 wherein said substrate includes
2 a floppy disk.

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1 ⁴⁸ 51. The storage medium of claim ⁴⁶ ~~48~~ wherein said substrate includes
2 a compact disc.

1 ⁴⁹ 52. The storage medium of claim ⁴⁶ ~~49~~ wherein said substrate includes
2 an optical disk.

1 ⁵⁰ 53. The storage medium of claim ⁴⁶ ~~49~~ wherein said substrate includes
2 a removable hard disk.
